



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



MONTHLY AG UPDATE – MARCH 2011

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USDA/NASS NEW MEXICO FIELD OFFICE

Issue 2011 03 AG

Available on the Internet: www.nass.usda.gov/nm, or by email (1-800-530-8810 for information)

CATTLE ON FEED

UNITED STATES: Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 11.4 million head on March 1, 2011. The inventory was 5 percent above March 1, 2010. Placements in feedlots during February totaled 1.66 million, 1 percent below 2010. Net placements were 1.60 million head. During February, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 400,000, 600-699 pounds were 365,000, 700-799 pounds were 489,000 and 800 pounds and greater were 410,000. Marketings of fed cattle during February totaled 1.79 million, 4 percent above 2010. Other disappearance totaled 60,000 during February, 12 percent below 2010.

INCLUDED IN THIS ISSUE – MARCH 2011

<u>Report</u>	<u>Release Date</u>
Cattle on Feed	March 18, 2011
Milk Production	March 18, 2011
Onion Plantings	April 1, 2011
Grain Stocks	March 31, 2011
Prospective Plantings	March 31, 2011
Farm Labor	February 17, 2011
Agricultural Prices	March 30, 2011

Cattle on Feed: Number on Feed, Placements, Marketings, and Other Disappearance, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots

	Number on Feed			Placed			Marketed			Other Disappearance		
	03/01/10	02/01/11	03/1/11	-----During-----								
				02/10	01/11	02/11	02/10	01/11	02/11	02/10	01/11	02/11
AZ	286	266	269	21	36	29	24	27	25	1	1	1
CA	425	470	460	51	54	43	48	51	50	8	3	3
CO	940	1,070	1,070	160	185	215	175	190	210	5	5	5
ID	195	230	220	36	31	31	40	40	40	1	1	1
IA	610	660	650	78	93	71	65	69	79	3	4	2
KS	2,220	2,270	2,220	405	435	365	415	435	405	10	10	10
NE	2,350	2,460	2,430	365	430	350	370	385	365	15	15	15
OK	355	375	360	54	66	60	62	64	73	2	2	2
SD	240	270	260	52	51	42	44	40	50	3	1	2
TX	2,650	2,800	2,840	365	440	380	400	390	405	15	10	15
WA	168	209	208	30	31	31	27	30	30	1	1	2
Oth. ^{1/}	410	423	407	57	47	47	46	53	61	4	3	2
US	10,849	11,583	11,394	1,674	1,899	1,664	1,716	1,774	1,793	68	56	60

^{1/} Other states include New Mexico.

FEBRUARY MILK PRODUCTION UP 0.1 PERCENT

NEW MEXICO: Milk production in February totaled 612 million pounds, up 3 percent from February 2010. Production per cow averaged 1,890 pounds for February, 20 pounds above February 2010. The number of milk cows on New Mexico farms was 324,000 head, 6,000 head more than February 2010.

UNITED STATES: Milk production in the 23 major States during February totaled 14.0 billion pounds, up 2.4 percent from February

2010. January revised production at 15.2 billion pounds, was up 2.5 percent from January 2010. The January revision represented a decrease of 21 million pounds or 0.1 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,666 pounds for February, 24 pounds above February 2010. The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.40 million head, 81,000 head more than February 2010, but no change from January 2011.

Milk Cows and Production: January 2011 and February 2010 - 2011

State	Milk Cows ^{1/}			Milk per Cow ^{2/}			Milk Production ^{2/}		
	02/10	01/11	02/11	02/10	01/11	02/11	02/10	01/11	02/11
	-----1,000 Head-----			-----Pounds-----			-----Million Pounds-----		
AZ	170	185	185	1,940	2,015	1,915	330	373	354
CO	116	123	123	1,800	1,975	1,795	209	243	221
NM	318	323	324	1,870	2,105	1,890	595	680	612
TX	410	425	425	1,640	1,875	1,720	672	797	731
23 STS	8,323	8,404	8,404	1,642	1,810	1,666	13,670	15,213	14,001

^{1/} Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh. ^{2/} Excludes milk sucked by calves.

ONIONS

NEW MEXICO: Planted onion acreage for 2011 is forecast at 5,000 acres. This is 1,000 acres below the 2010 forecast of 6,000 acres.

UNITED STATES: Total onion planted area for all seasons in 2011 is forecast at 158,860 acres, up 2 percent from last year. Spring onions are expected to be harvested from 30,300 acres in 2011, up 17 percent from 2010. Georgia and Texas combined

production is forecast at 7.13 million cwt, 5 percent below last year. Summer non-storage onion planted area, at 17,900 acres, is down 6 percent from a year ago. Total summer onion area, at 125,960 acres, is down 1 percent from the previous year.

Onions: Area Planted by Season, State, and United States, 2009-2010 and Forecasted Area 2011

Season and State	Area Planted		
	2009	2010	2011
	-----Acres-----		
Spring 1/			
AZ	1,600	(NA)	(NA)
TX	10,300	10,000	13,000
Total	29,900	28,400	32,900
Summer 1/			
Non-storage			
NM	5,200	6,000	5,000
TX	700	600	600
Total	17,900	19,100	17,900
Storage			
CO	8,000	7,500	7,700
Total	109,510	107,770	108,060
Total Summer	127,410	126,870	125,960
US	157,310	155,270	158,860

1/ Primarily fresh market.

GRAIN STOCKS

UNITED STATES: Corn stocks in all positions on March 1, 2011 totaled 6.52 billion bushels, down 15 percent from March 1, 2010. Of the total stocks, 3.38 billion bushels are stored on farms, down 26 percent from a year earlier. Off-farm stocks, at 3.14 billion bushels, are down slightly from a year ago. The December 2010 - February 2011 indicated disappearance is 3.53 billion bushels, compared with 3.21 billion bushels during the same period last year. **All wheat** stored in all positions on March 1, 2011 totaled 1.42 billion bushels, up 5 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks are estimated at 288 million bushels, down 17 percent from last March. Off-farm stocks, at 1.14 billion bushels, are up 13 percent from a year ago.

The December 2010 - February 2011 indicated disappearance is 508 million bushels, up 20 percent from the same period a year earlier. **Grain sorghum** stored in all positions on March 1, 2011 totaled 171 million bushels, down 3 percent from a year ago. On-farm stocks, at 13.0 million bushels, are down 45 percent from last March. Off-farm stocks, at 158 million bushels, are up 4 percent from a year earlier. The December 2010 - February 2011 indicated disappearance from all positions is 66.8 million bushels, down 11 percent from the same period last year.

Date		2010			2011		
		On Farms	Off Farms ^{1/}	Total All Positions	On Farms	Off Farms ^{1/}	Total All Positions
-----1,000 Bushels-----							
CORN							
Mar	1	4,548,000	3,145,787	7,693,787	3,384,000	3,138,804	6,522,804
June	1	2,131,400	2,178,671	4,310,071			
Sep	1	485,100	1,222,687	1,707,787			
Dec	1	6,302,000	3,754,769	10,056,769			
SORGHUM							
Mar	1	23,680	151,873	175,553	13,020	157,802	170,822
June	1	10,700	77,162	87,862			
Sep	1	4,500	36,740	41,240			
Dec	1	30,500	207,168	237,668			
ALL WHEAT							
Mar	1	348,250	1,008,107	1,356,357	288,010	1,136,548	1,424,558
June	1	209,900	765,737	975,637			
Sep	1	812,100	1,637,517	2,449,617			
Dec	1	550,000	1,382,946	1,932,946			

^{1/} Includes stocks at mills, elevators, warehouses, terminals and processors.

PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS

NEW MEXICO: Winter wheat growers in New Mexico intend to grow 445,000 acres in 2011, down 5 percent from 2010. Corn acreage is expected to increase 5,000 acres from previous year, while sorghum plantings are expected to remain the same as 2010. Cotton acreage is showing the largest increase, up 38 percent year to year, while hay acreage for harvest is showing the biggest drop, down 6 percent.

UNITED STATES: Corn growers intend to plant 92.2 million acres of corn for all purposes in 2011, up 5 percent from last year and 7 percent higher than in 2009. Soybean planted area for 2011 is estimated at 76.6 million acres, down 1 percent from last year. All wheat planted area is estimated at 58.0 million acres, up 8 percent from last year. The 2011 winter wheat

planted area is estimated at 41.2 million acres, up 10 percent from 2010 and up 1 percent from the Winter Wheat Seedings report. All cotton plantings for 2011 are expected to total 12.6 million acres, 15 percent above last year. Upland acreage is expected to total 12.3 million acres, up 14 percent from 2010. American Pima acreage is expected to total 252,500 acres, up 24 percent from 2010. Sorghum growers intend to plant 5.65 million acres of sorghum for all purposes in 2011, up 4 percent from 2010. Producers expect to harvest 59.0 million acres of all hay in 2011, down 1 percent from 2010. Peanut growers intend to plant 1.24 million acres of peanuts in 2011, down 4 percent from the previous year.

Crop Summary, Acres Planted, New Mexico and U.S., 2009-2011

	New Mexico				United States			
	2009	2010	2011 ^{1/}	2011/2010	2009	2010	2011 ^{1/}	2011/2010
	-----1,000 Acres-----			-Percent-	-----1,000 Acres-----			-Percent-
Corn	130	140	145	104	86,382	88,192	92,178	105
Sorghum	85	90	90	100	6,633	5,404	5,645	104
All Wheat	450	470	445	95	59,168	53,603	58,021	108
Winter	450	470	445	95	43,346	37,335	41,229	110
Soybeans					77,451	77,404	76,609	99
Peanuts	7.0	10.0	10.0	100	1,116.0	1,288.0	1,237.0	96
All Cotton	33.9	49.7	68.5	138	9,149.5	10,973.2	12,565.5	115
Upland	31.1	47.0	65.0	138	9,008.1	10,769.0	12,313.0	114
A-P	2.8	2.7	3.5	130	141.4	204.2	252.5	124
All Hay ^{2/}	320	310	290	94	59,775	59,862	58,973	99

^{1/} Intended plantings in 2011 as indicated by reports from farmers' ^{2/} Intended area harvested in 2009 as indicated by reports farmers.

QUARTERLY FARM LABOR

NEW MEXICO-ARIZONA: There were 18,000 hired workers on farms and ranches in New Mexico and Arizona (Mountain Region III) during the week of January 9-15, 2011, one thousand less than January 10-18 2010. Average hours worked by all hired workers decreased to 46.8 hours a week compared to 49.4 hours last year. Wage rates for field workers were up 1.30 dollars to \$9.77 an hour from the previous January's \$8.47 an hour. Livestock worker wages were up 26 cents to \$9.85 an hour from \$9.59. Overall, average wage rates for all hired agricultural workers were up 1.16 dollars to \$10.60 from \$9.44.

UNITED STATES: There were 807,000 hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of January 9-15, 2011, up 1

percent from a year ago. Of these hired workers, 602,000 were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 205,000 workers. Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$11.29 per hour during the January 2011 reference week, up 21 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$10.23 per hour, up 13 cents from last January, while livestock workers earned \$10.52 per hour compared with \$10.31 a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$10.35 per hour, was up 17 cents from last year. The number of hours worked averaged 38.9 for hired workers during the survey week, up 5 percent from a year ago.

	Mountain II <u>2/</u>		Mountain III <u>3/</u>		Southern Plains <u>4/</u>		United States <u>5/</u>	
	Jan 10-16 2010	Jan 9-15 2011	Jan 10-16 2010	Jan 9-15 2011	Jan 10-16 2010	Jan 9-15 2011	Jan 10-16 2010	Jan 9-15 2011
Workers on Farms	-----Thousands-----							
All Hired Workers	15	15	19	18	55	50	612	602
Hours Worked	-----Hours Per Week-----							
All Hired Workers	40.2	40.2	49.4	46.8	36.5	40.5	37.2	38.9
Wages By Work	-----Dollars Per Hour-----							
Field	10.74	10.89	8.47	9.77	9.01	9.34	10.10	10.23
Livestock	11.30	10.56	9.59	9.85	10.21	9.91	10.31	10.52
Field & Livestock	11.04	10.70	8.90	9.80	9.66	9.70	10.18	10.35
All Workers	11.73	12.00	9.44	10.60	10.00	10.30	11.08	11.29

1/ Excludes agricultural service workers. 2/ Mountain Region II consists of CO, NV & UT. 3/ Mountain Region III consists of AZ & NM. 4/ Southern Plains region consists of OK & TX. 5/ Excludes AK.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
 NEW MEXICO AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS
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AGRICULTURAL PRICES RECEIVED

NEW MEXICO: Hay prices for the month of March were down slightly from February, at \$161.00 per ton for all hay, and \$164.00 per ton for Alfalfa hay. Cattle prices

are no longer reported on a monthly basis in New Mexico. Milk prices increased to \$19.70 per hundredweight, compared to \$18.50 the previous month.

Prices Received by Farmers: Selected Commodities, February 2011 and March 2010- 2011

Prices Received by Farmers: Selected Commodities, February 2011 and March 2010-2011					
Commodity	Unit	New Mexico			U.S. ^{1/}
		March 2010 ^{2/}	February 2011 ^{2/}	March 2011 ^{1/}	March 2011
		-----Dollars-----			
CROPS					
Grain Sorghum	Cwt.	-	-	-	10.10
Cotton, Upland	Lb.	-	-	-	0.817
Potatoes	Cwt.	-	-	-	9.95
Hay, all baled	Ton	143.00	162.00	161.00	124.00
Alfalfa, baled	Ton	147.00	165.00	164.00	136.00
Peanuts	Lb.	-	-	-	0.234
Corn	Bu.	-	-	-	5.46
Wheat, all	Bu.	-	-	-	7.63
LIVESTOCK					
Cows	Cwt.	59.1	-	-	73.40
Steers & Heifers	Cwt.	101.00	-	-	116.00
Calves	Cwt.	122.00	-	-	148.00
Milk	Cwt.	14.50	18.50	19.70	20.40

^{1/} Mid-month ^{2/} Entire month